

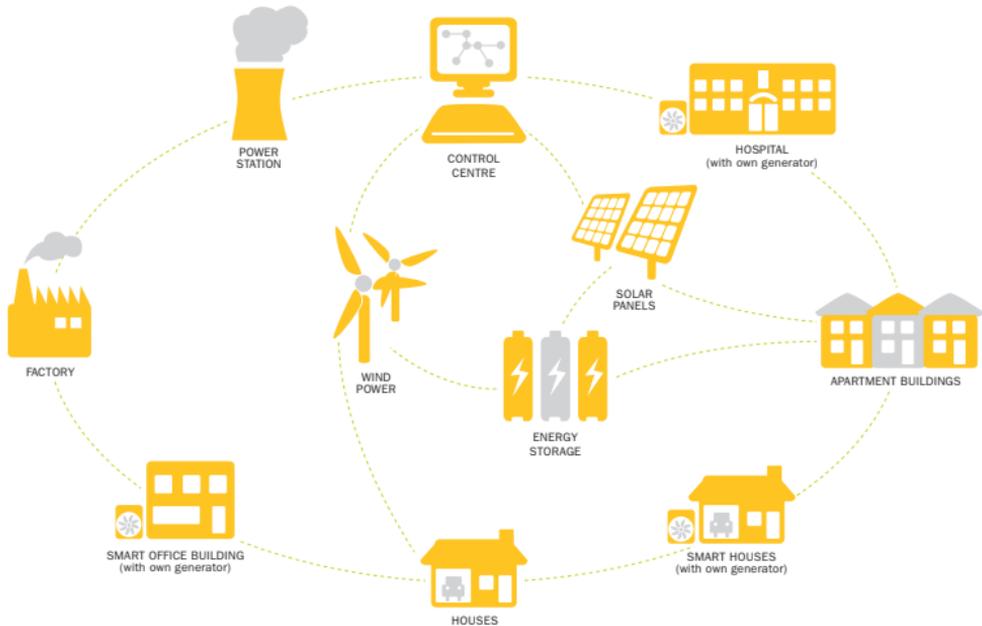
**POWERING AN ENERGY
TRANSFORMATION**
THE INTELLIGENT NETWORK
FROM COUNTRY ENERGY



Country Energy's Intelligent Network (IN) will do for energy what the internet has done for information. IN will improve network reliability, support the growth of renewable resources and give more control to consumers.

Country Energy is proud to be providing the Intelligent Network (IN) and delivering the future of electricity distribution in Australia.

1. What is IN?



IN uses a sophisticated telecommunications system, a network-wide sensor system and 'Smart Metering' to connect all points in the power network. Linking generators, distributors and customers enables the power network to monitor, manage and even heal itself.

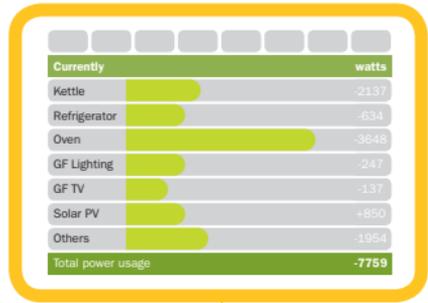
If a fault occurs at any point in the system, IN instantly recognises and may even remedy the problem, rerouting power to ensure minimal disruption to customers.

The interconnected system also allows for easy integration of a range of fuel sources including solar and wind power, along with emerging technologies such as energy storage.

IN gives customers more reliable power, choices in energy usage and savings. It gives our employees the opportunity to expand their capabilities in a world-class power system and helping to protect the environment we all live in.

2. What is Smart Metering?

'Smart Houses' connected to IN will be equipped for 2 way communication with the system through the use of Smart Meters.



Smart Meters will allow customers to receive detailed real-time information regarding all aspects of energy usage. Information such as current power, gas and water consumption, energy costs, previous consumption history and their household CO₂ emissions.

The Smart Meter will also allow customers to communicate with the system to individually control their energy usage according to their requirements, be they convenience, environmental focus or pricing.

Smart Metering will enable direct or remote operation of home appliances at specific times of the day for more efficient power usage.

Country Energy's IN can incorporate small renewable generation systems. These will benefit our customers through reduced power needs and the ability to cut costs further by crediting power back to the system.

These small renewable systems will enable customers to become power producers, helping reduce reliance on traditional electricity generators.

3. What are the key features of IN?

IN senses its strengths and weaknesses, monitoring, balancing and even healing itself.

High-speed digital communications transmitted from sensors embedded throughout the network provide real-time information that allows the power system to make intelligent decisions on how to react.

Constantly responding to messages from every point on the system, IN rapidly diagnoses and corrects problems to reduce outage times.

Better still, it can predict failures and prevent them in some cases. This saves customers from inconvenient and sometimes costly blackouts, as well as saving on costly power infrastructure repairs.

The result? Increased system reliability and reduced cost to the system and customers.

INTELLIGENT NETWORK;

**_ SENSES IT'S STRENGTHS/
WEAKNESSES**

_ USES REAL-TIME INFORMATION

**_ MONITORS, BALANCES AND
HEALS ITSELF**

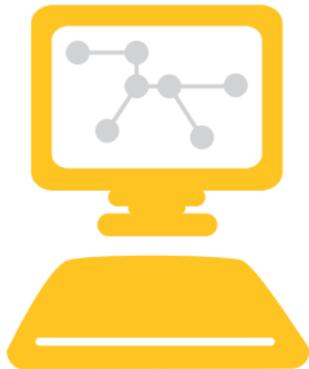
**INCREASES RELIABILITY AND
REDUCING COST TO THE SYSTEM
AND CUSTOMERS**

4. How is IN controlled?

The Control Centre is the 'brain' behind IN and uses powerful computing technology to monitor and control the entire system, ensuring it operates seamlessly and efficiently.

It is here that our fully integrated network management system, comes to life.

The Control Centre receives and responds to information from all devices, sensors and meters on IN through a sophisticated telecommunications system.



Because of the large land area covered by the Country Energy power network, no single communications technology could meet the requirements. Instead, the system combines many different technologies including fibre, satellite, mesh radio and BPL.

The smart meter becomes an integral part of the Control Centre communications. Customers can modify their usage profile and tailor their energy requirements.

Remote diagnostics allow the system to 'self heal' and provide real-time information that allows mobile field crews to optimise response times and resolve problems quickly and efficiently.

Potential problems can be identified earlier or even avoided, resulting in more efficient use of power assets, hardware and employee resources.

IN BUILT BENEFITS.

INTELLIGENT NETWORK OFFERS MANY VALUABLE RETURNS

The Intelligent Network will deliver a range of benefits to Country Energy and our customers.

Easy integration with business applications allows for informed decision-making that is more responsive to the bottom line.

For example; on-demand access to real-time network information, allows energy companies to realise advantages across a broad spectrum of business management functions. This may include network management from substation to meter, workforce management and customer management using two-way communications capabilities.

IN also allows the implementation of innovative environmental initiatives, tackling anything from peak demand management to reliability issues. It offers the ability to quickly build new conservation-oriented services and promote them through an online portal.

For energy-conscious consumers, this portal offers valuable information and services. They can view detailed usage information to better manage consumption and energy costs at home, as well as benefiting from more service choices, such as price alerts and other forms of demand response.

With a heightened focus on service in the future, Country Energy's IN allows for improvements in customer satisfaction on all levels, while simultaneously helping the environment.

IN SHORT.

INTELLIGENT NETWORK;

_ PROVIDES MORE RELIABLE POWER

_ PROVIDES COST SAVINGS

_ PROVIDES CUSTOMER CHOICE

_ PROVIDES EMPLOYEE OPPORTUNITIES

_ PROTECTS THE ENVIRONMENT

GLOBAL INTELLIGENT UTILITY NETWORK COALITION. A COMMITMENT TO LEADERSHIP

Country Energy is the only Australian member of the Global Intelligent Utility Network Coalition, an international group of energy companies working with IBM to accelerate the adoption of 'smart grid' technologies and solutions.

The Country Energy/IBM IN will address the challenges of rising energy costs, aging infrastructure, environmental responsibility and increased demand for reliability by utilising the most innovative automated and digital technology.

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countryenergy

We live here too.